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ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 281728Z AUG 08  
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8416  
INFO RUEHAB/AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY 0022  
RUEHMV/AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY 0076

UNCLAS OTTAWA 001144

SIPDIS

STATE FOR WHA/CAN AND AF/W  
STATE PASS TO USAID LIBERIA DESK OFFICER CHERYL KIM

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: EAID PREL CA LI

SUBJECT: CANADA UNLIKELY TO ATTEND DEVELOPMENT MINISTERS  
MEETING, MONROVIA, LIBERIA, SEPT. 5-6

REF: SECSTATE 89825

**¶11.** (U) On August 22, Econoff delivered reftel points to Jean-Yves Bourque, Program Officer, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Bourque stated that Canada does not have an aid program with Liberia and therefore is unlikely to attend the September Development Ministers meeting in Monrovia.

**¶12.** (U) On August 27, Bourque confirmed that International Cooperation Minister Oda received an invitation to the conference. He explained that the Minister has not yet decided if and on what level Canada might be represented. Bourque again said that because Canada has no aid program with Liberia, and does not want to artificially raise Liberia's hopes, it is extremely unlikely that Canada would send a high level representative to the meeting. He said because of USG encouragement to attend the conference, Canada will consider sending an Abidjan-based development official.

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